

Message Text

SECRET

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71
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY AF/W:BKIRKPATRICK/RHOUEK

APPROVED BY AF - TWSEELYE

INR/RAF - JSEASWORD (DRAFT)

C - RHOPPER

S/S -O:AWOTTO

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O 240046Z SEP 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CONAKRY IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 236801

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, GV, US

SUBJECT: SOVIET TU-95'S REAPPEARANCE IN GUINEA

REF: (A) CONAKRY 1911 (B) CONAKRY 1921 (C) CONARKY 1538

1. DEPT HAS BEEN INFORMED THAT TWO SOVIET TU-95
RECONNAISSANCE AIRCRAFT LANDED IN CONAKRY WEDNESDAY,
SEPTEMBER 21.

2. AMBASSADOR SHOULD IMMEDIATELY REQUEST MINISTER
DIAKITE TO PROVIDE EXPLANATION OF THIS DEVELOPMENT IN
LIGHT OF PREVIOUS ASSURANCES THAT FLIGHTS WOULD END AND
EXPRESSIONS GOG DETERMINATION TO PURSUE AN ABSOLUTELY
INDEPENDENT AND NON-ALIGNED FOREIGN POLICY. YOU SHOULD
TELL DIAKITE THAT ARRIVAL OF THE AIRCRAFT IN CONAKRY
ONLY HOURS AFTER THE SIGNING OF THE PL-480
AGREEMENT HAS RAISED MANY SERIOUS QUESTIONS, AND UNTIL
THEY ARE RESOLVED TO USG'S SATISFACTION, IT WOULD BE
INCONVENIENT FOR US TO RECEIVE THE VISIT OF MESSRS.

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KOUROUMA AND KEITA (REF B) IN WASHINGTON TO DISCUSS

PL-480. YOU ALSO SHOULD MENTION THAT REDEPLOYMENT
SOVIET AIRCRAFT PARTICULARLY BAFFLING GIVEN COMMENTS

BY GUINEAN OFFICIALS THAT GOG NO LONGER FEARED
SEABORNE ATTACK (PARA 3, REF C).

3. IF DIAKITE ASKS ABOUT SECURITY GUARANTEES, YOU MAY
TELL HIM THAT WE HAVE BEEN IN CONTACT WITH ANOTHER
AFRICAN COUNTRY TO SEEK COOPERATION OF GUINEA'S
NEIGHBORS WITH REGARD TO GOG SECURITY CONCERNS.
WE PLAN TO DISCUSS THIS WITH THE GOG AFTER WE HAVE
SOMETHING MORE CONCRETE. IN THE MEANTIME YOU CAN
ASSURE HIM THAT WE HAVE SO FAR BEEN UNABLE TO
UNCOVER ANY EVIDENCE OF A SERIOUS EXTERNAL THREAT
TO GUINEA. ROBINSON

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NNN

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